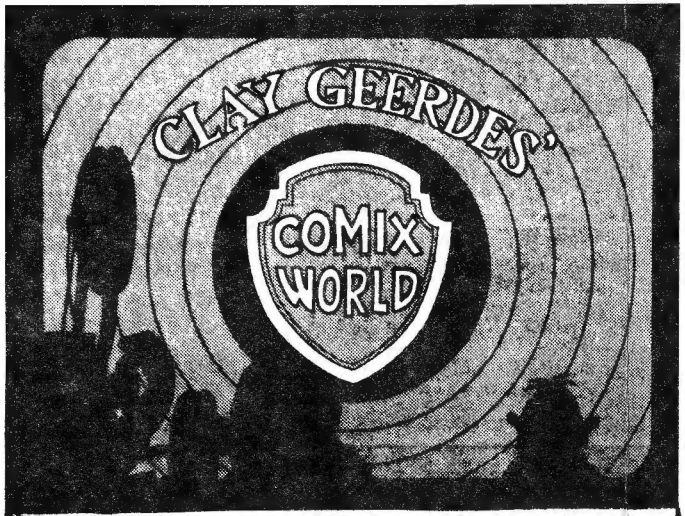

COMIX WORLD 30. Copyright Clay Geerdes, 1975. All rights reserved. $3 for 12 issues. $5 for set of back issues. Money orders to Clay at 915 Indian Rock Road, Berkeley, Ca 94707. Collectors send want list.* * First issue of the new comic tabloid published by David Tatelman, the SEATTLE SIMPLETON, is out. 35¢ pp from him at 4417 5th Ave NE, Seattle, Wa 98105. Art by Bobby London, Gilbert Shelton, John Workman, et al. Open to contributors, but query first.* * At the San Diego Con, I met Warren Greenwood, an amicable young man from upper New York state, an ex-communal farmer, who, with partner Pete Von Sholly, has done two issues of ZERO. Warren reminded me of what I should have remembered, that his character, the Ultimato, was inspired by the Kingfish on Amos An' Andy who said, "Sapphire, I gonna give you an Ultimato." George DiCaprio and I sat on an underground panel, saying little, because little gets said on panels. George mentioned that FELCH was coming out soon, "the grossest ug ever." It's as boring being on a panel as it is listening to one. Later, someone asked me why I didn't say anything. "No one asked me anything." It was a Marvel/Monster/overground Con as it has been since the beginning, and I just accept it that way. The fanzine and overground artists who are now referring to themselves as underground are just trying to cash in on the tail end of something that's more--what? glamorous? Rebellious?--than finished. This is 1975 and even Arcade, as nostalgic as it is, can not turn the clock back to 1969. Subscriber Larry Weir wrote me from New York: "It was nice to see that some of the earliest artists such as Kinney, Spiegelman, and Griffith are still going through creative changes. And that Shelton is funnier than ever, but most of the magazine seemed rather stale."* * * Scrimshaw Press has published R. Crumb's THE YUM YUM BOOK, and it's so beautiful and nostalgic and innocent. Crumb says in his introduction that the book seems somewhat adolescent and immature to him, because it was drawn when he was a 19-year-old virgin, but I don't agree. I saw a lot more meaning in YUM-YUM and prefer it to his later pedantry. The Scrimshaw edition is hardback and is printed on nice vellum in full color. It's all comic art, a story done in that early Fritz the Cat style, one influenced by fairy tales like Jack and the Beanstalk and The Frog Princess. Main character is a "sad, hung-up toad named Ogden." $7.50 from Scrimshaw Press, 149 Ninth Street in San Francisco, Ca 94103. The Crumb button below is one of a series. $1.10 pp from the address on the pin. Krupp honcho Denis Kitchen was at the SDCON with the pins and they are nice. $45 a set. He'll send the list when you buy one. Kitchen had two new books with him: BAREFOOTZ and CONSUMER COMICS. (See CW 28 for information on BAREFOOTZ author, Howard Cruse. Denis said his new books were SNARF 6 and BIZARRE SEX 4. Out this Fall. Jim Himes was on hand with some of his art for FORBIDDEN KNOWLEDGE 1 (two pages to go, and that's why you haven't got the book yet--sorry for the delay he says--It's incredible art and worth waiting for, I say.). * * Weird trips. The first underground character to be represented in costume form at the masquerade ball? Cheech Wizard. He was all over the El Cortez hotel. Even weirder was Vaughn's brother, Vincent Bode, doing the cartoon concert (Vaughn Bode died July 18, 1975, in Oakland, Ca.). Ironic that Cheech-Wizard should be on the cover of the MEDIASCENE Steranko was autographing for his fans.

ALL SET! I'M SENDING MY PET PONY BY PLANE!
OW! PETS!! LOOKS LIKE YOU ROBBED THE ZOO!
STUDIO NO. 85
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9-14

Inside the issue (#15, 9-75), Steranko wrote: "From our point of view, it seems quite clear how he has become a genuine super-star among his peers, a rainbow rocket that has only just begun to accelerate." Bode's "Confessions of a cartoon gooroo," meanwhile, reads like the Cartoon Messiah's farewell. He has gone "on toward the mystic, far away delta, and the open Seas of Death beyond." Meanwhile, in the dealer's room, Bode's comix and posters and t-shirts were selling faster than 10¢ Action 1's. Perhaps Jack Katz is right when he sees the major trend of the mid-seventies as necrophilia. The DOC SAVAGE movie is certainly that. * * I met Will Eisner and yep, he wears grey suits like the commissioner and never stops smoking his pipe even to eat.* * Avon Books has come out with a lovely BETTY BOOP BY MAX FLEISCHER which reprints 52 Sunday pages from the mid-thirties, drawn by Bud Counihan. It's $3.45 pp if you don't find it at your local bookstore. Avon, 959 Eighth Av, N Y, N Y 10019. Panels on this page are from that work. And how can you live without one of the Betty Boop Fan Club buttons? Same place you get the Crumbs. Boop t-shirts? Last Gasp, P. O. Bx 212, Berkeley, Ca 94704. $6 pp. * * COMIC READER 121 sez ugs trying to surface & gives COMIX BOOK & ARCADE as examples. No doubt, CW readers will find a lot of humor in that statement. Oh, Denis Kitchen says he may do COMIX BOOKS 4 and 5 with Krupp. 8-4-75 CG.

HM-M! THERE'S A CATCH IN IT SOMEWHERE!
THEY DO ACT A LITTLE OVER-JOYED!
YEA, BO! LE'S GO!!
WOW! THANKS, SIS!
WE'LL MAKE BUBBY CAPTAIN FOR THIS!
12-21

GIVE ME ONE!
I'LL TAKE TWO!
BETTY BOOPS AUTOGRAPHS TEN CENTS APIECE!
COUPLA MORE SALES'N THE FOOTBALL IS OURS!
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GEORGE METZGER (Continued from San Diego Special)

Metzger had just met Bill Spicer and discovered another who felt as he did that comics were a serious medium. "I promptly began drawing up strips for him. i did one for Star-Studded Comics, a super hero-oriented zine from texas. In '67, i began doing 'Beyond time & again,' a strip in a weekly format, for a local underground paper published by 2 local dudes, bill craddock (a former biker, altered by acid to higher things--he is now a writer, one of his books "be not content" is about the early days of acid in his area & a damn good book, better'n thomas wolfe) & Andy Clausen, a local poet in the Ginsberg tradition, given to outrageous public readings in the nude--he had been a marine, who after turning on to acid had been kicked out of the marines for telling his sergeant he loved him & for eating a dirt sandwich during inspection by his commanding officer. The paper didn't last even a yr, but i drew with inspiration. i even got $10 or $15 an issue for my work. I took a job. i worked in a silk screen printing shop printing op-art posters. i had to. i now had an apt. (one room $35 a month) 2 trucks (Chevvy panels both) & a lady (bethanye, aged 18--ah, young love). The poster craze was on. i dug Rick Griffin & bought back issues of Surfer mag to get his older work. The Haight was in flower. Underground comics popped up. i went & met Crumb & Griffin & Moscoso & got to be friends with them. Crumb, Griffin & Shelton told me to do comics. i was hesitant to do it as my work wasn't like anything then in print. but they persisted so i went to the print mint who snapped me right up with open arms." "How did you happen to appear in Voice of Comicdom and Promethean Enterprizes?" "Rudy Franke, who lived in San Jose, simply looked me up & asked me to do something for him. i had an idea for a strip inspired by the huge city in Russ Manning's Magnus Robot Fighter. so i did that. corben was appearing in there (VofC, ed.). Promethean was a project of a number of San Jose comics fans, Bud Plant & his friends who went into the comic book store business & Al Davoren, a collector of everything (He turned me on to Parrish among other things.). So when they decided to publish they asked people they knew whose work they dug. Every issue taught them something & each succeeding issue got further & further out. The strip that was run in there was one i had done in '65 when separating from the army, redrawn." "How would you describe the kind of material you did in works like Moondog? "moondog and kaleidasmith and 'Panoply Mind' are s.f. fantasy of the after-the-holocaust genre. They reflect my interest in s.f., psi-powers, the old west, hippisms, steam-powered things & my waning interest in black powder pistols. Truckin' is more personal--the first issue was begun near the end of my first visit to rural canada, a very exciting, inspirational summer. (i had quit my printing job that spring so i could draw as much as i wanted.) Almost all that first issue deals with incidents in my life that summer, fall & winter. The day's end non-verbal strip alludes to the steve gaskin caravan. i'd been attending the Monday night class for a year or so, clarifying my personal beliefs. Truckin' shows the influence of the old s. f. fanzines. I'm not doing so much now. I have lots of ideas--just no outlet. i'm too far out for the pro-comics (or so those N. Y. people might think). I look on all my art as me learning what i can do, what there is to the medium, etc., so it is all kinda experimental, not just the Mal-ig strips. when I first did comics they were very wordy, & i trimmed them down a bit--kurtzman was very economical with space in his war-comics. i was into japanese comics for awhile which are very visual, very film-like, & I took to doing more visual stuff, letting the story be told by visual action & dialogue." As of this writing, George Metzger is living and working in animation in Vancouver, B. C. He did an 11 page story for BRAIN FANTASY 2 but the book went to press before he got the art in. Readers who would like to write to George may send their letters to COMIX WORLD. Put your letter to George inside a second envelope and send to me. I will forward these to George. I know from my letter file that Metzger is one of the top favorites in ug comix. He is also one who always seems left out whenever articles on the comix appear. I recommend him to those fools who continually equate undergrounds with sex and pornography and random violence. I consider Metzger the essence of what many of us thought of as underground in the lost years of Haight-Ashbury, a man who had the vision of that new world just over the horizon where we would all be brothers, that world where we would be building something inside as well as outside of ourselves. His art makes me feel good. Just to look at his roads and trees and mountains is an upper. Thanks for telling us your story, George.

8-5-75

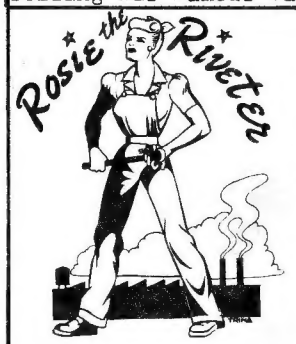
TRINA AT THE NEW YORK CON. JULY 1975: "New York was wretched. I was prepared for the heat but had forgotten the humidity. It was like being slapped in the face with a wet washcloth. At least the garbage strike was over, but the smell remained.

The Commodore was mercifully air-conditioned and swarming with cartoonists and fans. There seemed to be quite a few Europeans wandering around: I felt very Hands across the Sea.

The Air Pirates had a room downstairs where they sold drawings to pay for their trial; they seemed to be doing gorgeously. Denis Kitchen was there selling his Famous Cartoonist Series bottons. Betty Boop and Rosie the Riveter sold out.

The Underground cartoonist panel was a total disaster! Denis and I started to get into a really good argument/dialogue with Artie Spiegelman about our differing values, but all the audience was interested in was superheroes. (ditto, San diego, Trina--ed.)

Prices were up, buying was down. Trina 7-75



T-SHIRTS BY TRINA!
ROSIE IN VICTORY BLUE ON LILY WHITE, $4.50 INCL. POSTAGE. SPECIFY S. M. L.
TRINA ROBBINS, 1982 15TH ST. SAN FRAN, CAL. 94114

Trina's latest story is in Bob Sidebottom's BARBARIAN WOMEN #1. Next issue of CW will feature extensive interview material on Trina & The Women's comix collective

ENDNOTES*****

Greg Irons designed KSAN'S Ace of the Air ways t-shirt & It's $4 from KSAN, 211 Sutter St. S. F., Ca. * Natural Superiority of woman in FETISH TIMES 17. Sam Roper talks about Wonder Woman, "America's Foremost Feminist," on p. 19, but is she really? * From the guys who did NEW PALTZ Comes COMIX UNLIMITED. 60¢pp fm MTM, PO Bx 394, Cranford, N.J. 07016. This one is all B/w and run in COMIC READER FORMAT as are the comics of TIM CORRIGAN advertised below. * COMICS LAND I you get from Nino Bernazzali, Via G. Modugno, 5 - 16156 Pegli, Genova Italy. 2.50 pp. Art & material on Warren Tufts, Arturo Del Castillo, and Robert Gigi.* Joost Swarte did the illos for De Papalagi. This from Real Free Press, Oude Nieuwstraat 10 Amsterdam. -C. G. 8-5-75

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